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Message Text

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ACTION PA-02

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: EAGR
SUBJECT: PARTICIPATION OF MR SHODA IN WHEAT CONVENTION, HAWAII

DEPT PASS ALSO TO DEPT AGRIC FOR FAS HUME

TO: HONORABLE GEORGE R. ARIYOSHI
GOVERNOR OF HAWAII
HONOLULU, HAWAII

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM TOKYO. I HAVE A SPECIAL REQUEST ON
BEHALF OF OUR GOVERNMENT AND EMBASSY TOKYO WHICH I THINK YOU
WILL AGREE IS WORTHPURSUING.
YOU MAY BE AWARE THAT THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WHEAT GROWERS
HAS PLANNED ITS ANNUAL COVENTION IN HAWAII FOR JANUARY 18-22.
THE CONFERENCE THEME IS MOST APPROPRIATELY "MEETING YOUR
CUSTOMERS HALF-WAY." IT IS CLEAR THAT OVER 200 JAPANESE WHEAT
INDUSTRY LEADERS WILL BE ATTENDING. REPRESENTATIVES FROM MOST
OTHER FAR EASTERN COUNTRIES WILL ALSO BE PRESENT. ON THE
AMERICAN SIDE, 1,500 PRODUCERS WILL ATTEND.
MR. HIDESABURO SHODA, CHIRMAN OF THE BOARD, NISSHIN FLOUR
MILLING CO., HAS AGREED TO ATTEND AS THE PRINCIPAL FOREIGN
SPEAKER. HE IS ALSO FATHER OF THE CROWN PRINCESS MICHIKO (WIFE
OF PRINCE AKIHITO WHO IS NEXT IN SUCCESSION TO BE EMPEROR) AND
A PERSONAL FRIEND OF MINE.
ON BEHALF OF THE EMBASSY, I WOULD LIKE TO ASK IF YOU WOULD BE
ABLE TO EXTEND SOME COURTESIES CONSONANT WITH A MAN OF HIS
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LEADERSHIP AND SOCIAL POSITION. WOULD IT BE POSSIBLE FOR YOU OR
ONE OF YOUR SENIOR REPRESENTATIVES TO MEET HIM AT THE AIRPORT
AND ESCORT HIM TO HIS HOTEL? IN ADDITION, COULD A SMALL
LUNCHEON INCLUDING YOU AND/OR OTHERS IN YOUR OFFICE BE
ARRANGED FOR JANUARY 18?
THE WHEAT GROWERS' CONVENTION SYMBOLIZES THE VAST IMPORTANCE OF

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U.S.-JAPAN AGRICULTURAL TRADE. LAST YEAR THE UNITED STATES
EXPORTED $22 BILLION WORTH OF FARM PRODUCTS, AND OVER $3 BILLION
OF THAT AMOUNT WENT TO JAPAN - EQUAL TO OVER ONE-THIRD OF OUR
EXPORTS TO THIS MOT IMPORTANT TRADE PARTNER. WHEAT, FEEDGRAINS,
OILSEEDS, MEAT PRODUCTS AND CITRUS ARE MAJOR COMPONENTS OF TOTAL
TRADE WITH JAPAN. BUT AS YOU KNOW WELL THE JAPANESE ALSO ENJOY
FRESH PAPAYA, MACADAMIA NUTS, PINEAPPLE,
GUAVA JUICE, KONA COFFEE, ICE CREAM,
ETC., WHICH ARE PRODUCED IN THE PEARLS OF THE PACIFIC AND
REGULARLY PROMOTED HERE IN JAPAN.
THE CONVENTION ITSELF AND MR. SHODA'S PRESENCE ARE NO DOUBT A
BOON TO THE INTERESTS OF YOUR STATE, THE U.S. AS A WHOLE, AND
THE FAR EAST, PARTICULARLY JAPAN, WHOSE CULTURAL
TIES TO HAWAII ARE INDEED STRONG.
I WOULD CERTAINLY APPRECIATE ANYTHING YOU COULD DO TO HIGHLIGHT
MR. SHODA'S TRIP. IF ACCEPTABLE, WE WILL FOLLOW UP WITH ALL
NECESSARY DETAILS.
AMERICAN EMBASSY
TOKYO, JAPAN
HODGSON

NOTE BY OC/T: PASSED ABOVE ADDRESSEE.

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